

Approved as Amended
2-0-1 (TC)

Town of Ashfield

Select Board Minutes

August 11, 2014

The Ashfield Select Board meeting was held on Monday August 11, 2014 at the Ashfield Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. There were approximately 8 audience members in attendance. There were 5 audio recorders in use.

Previous Select Board meeting was July 29, 2014.

Select Board: Tom Carter-Chair (absent), Ron Coler-Vice Chair, Todd Olanyk

Executive Administrator: Mary Fitz-Gibbon

Assistant Municipal Clerk/Scribe: Lynn Taylor

Meeting was called to order by Ron Coler Vice-Chair at 7:00 P.M.

Agenda for 8/11/2014 (**document 1**)

Vendor Warrant W15-04 dated August 11, 2014 (document 2)

Payroll Warrant WP15-04 dated August 11, 2014 (document 3)

Minutes:

Minutes of 7/28/2014: **MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to accept the minutes of 7/28/2014 as amended, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 2-0-0 (document 4)**

Minutes of 7/29/2014: **MOTION:** Cooler makes a motion to accept the minutes of 7/29/2014 as amended, seconded by Olanyk. **VOTE: 2-0-0 (document 5)**

Appointments:

Mary Ellen Abbatiello Chair of the Park Commission addresses the Board with a request to be allowed to use park restoration funds that are left; the current balance of the fund is \$10,199.12. Abbatiello distributes and refers to a letter from the AG's office dated 3/23/2011 (**document 6**) stating the park restoration needed to be completed by 11/1/2012. The Park Commissions plan is to purchase 2 picnic

tables, 3 park benches made from recycled plastic they are a little more expensive but will last much longer. Quotes for those ranged from \$4,100.00 to \$4,600.00. A new fireplace for cooking on would also be purchased. John Nawrocki has looked into pricing for cherry trees which will be planted in the park as well the trees should be around \$2,400.00. A total figure of around \$7,150.00 would need to be spent for the work. Coler brought to the Boards attention a paragraph that stated that any money remaining after the restoration should be returned to the General fund unless otherwise directed by the Town Meeting floor. Abbatiello would like to have the project completed before Annual Town Meeting. Paullette Leukhardt suggests that a little oak tree that was planted by the tree committee perhaps be dug up and moved to the park as it is dying in its current location. Abbatiello will contact Harry Dodson.

MOTION: Olanyk makes a motion to allow the Park Commission to spend from the Park restoration fund no more than the current balance of \$10,199.12 to complete the restoration of the park, seconded by Coler. **VOTE:** 2-0-0

Abbatiello also questioned the Board of their opinion regarding canoes being left along the edge of the lake, there are so many canoes left through the winter causing problems. The Board felt the commission should put it on their agenda for discussion. Perhaps putting an ad in the paper and giving a deadline for removal and if that is not met locks will be cut and canoes could be auctioned off or sold.

New Business:

- a. HCOG Electric Contract: The Board has three contract options to choose from a 12 month at a rate of 11.39(**document 7**), 18 month at a rate of 11.82(**document 8**), or a 24 month rate at 11.08(**document 9**) per kWh. After a very brief discussion, it is decided to go with the lowest rate 24 months for a rate of 11.08 per kWh. **MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to accept the 24 Month contract with the HCOG at a rate of 11.08 per kWh with starting date of September 1, 2014 and signed by Vice Chair Ron Coler, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 2-0-0**
- b. Letter to MTRSD Superintendent regarding FY 15 regional transportation costs reimbursement: Coler reads a letter into the record that was drafted by Finance Committee Chair Ted Murray. (**document 10**) Emily Robertson School Committee member starts by saying she feels the word “windfall” is not a word she would like to see used. She doesn’t feel she has much information to share with the Board other than it will not happen quickly the process of sorting things out might be a long process as being in the middle of transitioning a new business manager and funds not being available

(FY15) Emily expresses her personal thoughts that it would be great to see the money could go back to the taxpayers as that is where it came from. David Newell spoke regarding this same issue he would like the Board to also draft a letter as Ted Murray and other district Towns did in support of getting funds returned to the district Towns. Coler said that although he agreed in principle with the contents of Buckland's, Colrain's, and Shelburne's Select Board letters, it was his personal policy not to trample on the offices and responsibilities of other duly elected officials. Coler felt that The School Committee members are an elected Board that have been elected to have the best interest of the Town in mind. After continued discussion, the board decides to let Ted Murray's letter stand.

- c. HCOG Regional legislative Agenda Invitation to participate: Coler reads the letter into the record. **(document 11)**
- d. Accept resignation letter from Wayne Gardner from the Building Committee and Town Hall Steward. **(document 12)** Coler reads letter into the record. Coler feels there may be more than one issue. Coler will talk to Stuart Harris and report back to the board with Harris's thoughts. **MOTION:** Coler makes a motion to accept Wayne Gardner's resignation letter from Town Hall Steward and Town Hall Building Committee with regret, seconded by Olanyk. **VOTE: 2-0-0** Fitz-Gibbon was asked to send a thank you letter to Gardner.
- e. Town Clerk Letter regarding New England City & Town Clerks Institute & Academy **(document 13):** Ron reads a letter from Town Clerk Ann Dunne thanking the Board for their support for the Academy. Coler reads the letter into the record.

Old Business:

- a. Appoint Arthur Pantermehl, Thayer Rd, as the FRCOG Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Advisory Committee Community Representative: **MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to appoint Arthur Pantermehl to the FRCOG Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Advisory Committee Community Representative, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 2-0-0**
- b. CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program Letter **(document14):** Coler reads the form letter into the record that will be sent to people that are on the waiting list for loans into the record.

Liaison Reports:

Highway: Olanyk has met with Tom Poissant the driveway issue with Curt Pichette has been resolved and will be resurfaced when the paving crew is in

Town. The new truck specs are being worked on in hopes to get within 3-4 months. Olanyk checked out the new grader that is ready to go and already been used a few times. Poissant has hired 2 summer kids, which are doing a good job. Chapter 90 and repaving of roads was also discussed.

Olanyk stated he had also been to one of the Inspection Program meetings.

Coler has been to a couple Senior Center meetings as well as the Mohawk long-term range planning meetings. Coler also advises that the Dam inspection is also coming up this year.

Mail:

- 3 letters regarding pipeline issue. 1 from Kathleen MacLean (**document 15**), 1 from Robert Stalknecht (**document 16**), 1 from Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company LLC (**document 17**) Coler reads all the letters into the record. Fitz-Gibbon was asked to contact Town Counsel regarding the response letter from Tennessee Gas pipeline Company to see if the contents of the letter were accurate.
- Coler reads a letter from Nancy Garvin (**document 18**) into the record regarding highway cutting her apple trees that were on the side of the road. Tom Poissant has spoken with the driver of the tractor & mower and with Garvin. Both Poissant and Garvin are pleased with the final outcome.

Public Comment:

Franklin Wickland feels something should be done to protect the homeowners from having their property mowed. He feels the Town does not in every case own the side of the roads. Olanyk will speak with Poissant again perhaps maybe a letter could be put in the paper or something to let homeowners know.

Olanyk makes a motion to adjourn, seconded by Coler. **VOTE 2-0-0**

Adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Document List

1. Agenda for 8/11/2014
2. Vendor Warrant W15-04 dated August 11, 2014

3. Payroll Warrant WP15-04 dated August 11, 2014
4. Minutes of 7/28/2014
5. Minutes of 7/29/2014
6. Letter from the Ag's office regarding Park Restoration Fund dated 3/23/2011
7. HCOG Contract for 12 months at a rate of 11.39 per kWh
8. HCOG Contract for 18 months at a rate of 11.82 per kWh
9. HCOG Contract for 24 months rate of 11.08 per kWh
10. Letter drafted by Finance Committee Chair Ted Murray to Michael Buoniconti.
11. HCOG Regional legislative Agenda Invitation to participate
12. Resignation letter from Wayne Gardner from the Building Committee and Town Hall Steward
13. Town Clerk Letter regarding New England City & Town Clerks Institute & Academy
14. CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program Letter
15. Letter from Kathleen MacLean
16. Letter from Robert Stalknecht
17. Letter from Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company LLC
18. Letter from Nancy Garvin regarding cutting of apple trees

APPROVED AS AMENDED ON 8/25/2014 2-0-1 (TC)

Note: These minutes were discussed, amended, and approved at the Select Board meeting dated 8/25/2014 and filed in the folder of the actual date of the said minutes